tion amongst police personnel who are freely demanding and getting regular grafts funds from pavement hawkers and vehicle owners for alleged infringement of rules etc. in Delhi;

(b) whether Government are also aware that is has become a routine for police stations and chowkies to get free food supplies from several Restaurants/Dhabas, etc.; and

(c) if so, what corrective steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No. Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Vigilance inquiry is conducted whenever complaints are received. Suitable action is also taken if charges are substantiated.

Press Conference held by senior officials of US Administration in Delhi on International property

2495. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Press Conference was held by senior officials of the US Administration in Delhi on the 27th July, 1988 on International property;

(b) whether any Government officials from his Ministry attended the Press Conference;

(c) what is the detailed report received by his Ministry on this Press Conference;

(d) whether it is a fact the US officials openly criticised the Indian Patent Act in this Press Conference;

(e) whether his Ministry lodged a complaint with the US Government for this open criticism;

(f) whether it is also a fact US Government officials threatened to block Indian exports to the United States citing the example of Brazil; and

(g) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (g) A US delegation had visited India in July, 1988 for discussions on issues connected with the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and other bilateral issues with the Government of India. Two members of this delegation are understood to have briefed some journalists on the US views on Intellectual Property Rights. No Government official attended the briefing. However, the Ministry has seen the reports that have appeared in the press.

The US officials expressed the well-known views of the US government about the need for an international accord on intellectual property and about the adequacy of Indian patent laws. No action is called for by the government on these press statements

Central Assistance for environmental Improvement scheme in Madhya Pradesh

2496. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an environmental improvement scheme has been prepared for Madhya Pradesh at a cost of Rs 1.50 crores.

(b) whether the scheme coupled with the conservation and development of forests will be initiated in

the forest villages as a pilot project; and

(c) if so, what are the main features of the proposed scheme and the quantum of Central aid provided to the States Government in implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes Sir. The State of Madhya Pradesh has prepared an Environmental Forestry Scheme involving a cost of Rs. 1.50 crores.

(b) and (c) The scheme is intended to create strip and block plantations in the major cities and towns and is in progress. The scheme is funded from the State Plan and no separate Central assistance is given.

Molestation Incidents in Delhi

2497. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increasing number of incidents of molestation of women/girl students both in Delhi Transport Corporation buses and outside has been reported in Delhi during the last two-three months; and

(b) if so, what preventive steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Strict watch is kept over the activities of bad elements. Close watch is made near the sensitive educational institutions, women's colleges/ etc. Legal action is taken against the culprits after receiving such complaints. Surprise checking is done in D.T.C. buses to avoid such incidents. Police patrolling by beat and division staff and in plain cloths has been intensified. The D. T C. have opened various Complaints Cells with telephone numbers to lodge complaints on phone or in writing. Disciplinary action is taken against the erring conductors and drivers of D.T.C. buses.

Botanical Garden in Seshachalam Hills, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh

2498. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minster of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to set up a botanical garden in Seshachalam Hills Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z R. ANSARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there is no scheme for setting up botanic gardens in different parts of the country.

Articles missing from Golden Temple Complex

2499. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two most valuable possessions are missing since May, 1988 from the Sikh Museum in the Golden Hemple Complex;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have made any efforts to trace the missing articls and if so, with what results?